appropriate for the hon. Members first to write to the Government about specific instances before they put questions in the Assembly or in the Council.

திரு. ஜெ. பொன்னுசாமி வில்லவராயர் : சார், சில இடங்களில் ஜீப் பஸ்கள் விடப்பட்டும் சில இடங்களில் விடப்படாமலும் இருக்கின்றன. அதற்குக் காரணம் என்ன ?

கனம் திரு. ஆர். வெங்கட்டராமன் : அதற்கு வேறு கேள்வி போடவேண்டும்.

National integration

* 20 *Q.*—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to ban books of general nature which contain passages prejudicial to national integration?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : No.

* 21 *Q.*—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any circular has been issued by the Government recently to panchayat unions and panchayats with the direction to obtain signatures of members thereof in affirmation of their support for national integration; and

(*b*) if so, the details thereof?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) & (*b*) Panchayat unions and panchayats were requested to organize the celebration of the National Integration Pledge Campaign from the 2nd to 9th October 1962. A detailed common programme of celebration was drawn up and communicated to panchayat union councils. The programme included, among other things, broadcast of a message from the Governor of Madras, speeches explaining the significance of the campaign and the inauguration of the campaign by the signing of the pledge by the Chairman and Councillors.

Taxis

* 22 *Q.*—Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of taxis in the City of Madras as on 1st June 1962; and

(*b*) the number of taxis licensed during the period from 1st April 1961 to 1st June 1962?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) 1,411.

(*b*) 277.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Sir, inspite of the large number of taxis licensed by the Government, is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that they are not available for people especially during nights after 8 p.m. and may I know what arrangements the Government propose to make to make them available during nights?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, the Government have also decided to build up fleets of taxis in Madras City by licensing fleet-owners in addition to the present small operators so as to ensure uninterrupted service in the City. We are looking to some such fleet-owners coming up and taking licences.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Is there any proposal to license more taxis owned by small proprietors?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: The policy is to license as many taxis, as we require. If applications are filed, they will be considered.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Sir, if the same rates are allowed for the taxis during the day and during the nights, it will be difficult for the drivers and the operators. Therefore, is there any proposal before the Government to revise the rates and allow an increased rate for taxis running during nights especially after 8 p.m. or 9 p.m.?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I have travelled all over the World, and I know of no country where the taxi fares are different, one fare for the day and another for the night.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: I am sorry the Hon. Minister is not aware of its existence. I would request him to go to Ceylon and to Malaya to see such rates. In those countries the fares are different during night and day, one rate for the day and another for the night.

(An hon. Member: They are not different.)

Nylon thread

* 23 *Q.*—SRI J. PONNUSAMY VILLAVARAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to State—

(*a*) the quantity of nylon thread allotted to the State during 1961–62;

(*b*) the districts to which it has been distributed and the quantity supplied to each district;

(*c*) the quantity of nylon thread supplied to Co-operative Stores and individuals; and